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EXPANSION OF ORCHARDS IN RUMANIA

[Comment: The following report was compiled from October, November, and December 1953 issues of the Bucharest daily newspapers Romania Libera and Viata Capitalei.

The newspapers reviewed during these 3 months carried only one article mentioning a countrywide program of increasing the ruit tree planting in the fall of 1953. Bucharest Regiune received the bulk of attention, with approximately one third of the 300,000 saplings planned for the regiune planted. While Pitesti and Ploesti regiunes are important fruit growing centers, they were given only casual mention. It is interesting to note that planting continued as late as 18 December, which would tend to indicate that the weather was mild and that the ground was not yet frozen.

Numbers in parentheses refer to appended sources.]

Countrywide

Fruit tree planting started throughout Rumania at the beginning of November 1953. About 59 percent more fruit trees were planted in the fall of 1953 than in the fall of 1952. Baia-Mare, Cluj, Pitesti, and Ploesti regiumes were scheduled to receive the largest number of fruit trees. The number of fruit trees in Bain-Mare Regiune was expected to increase by 90 percent. In Pitesti and Ploesti regiunes, for example, the number of fruit trees was increased 100 percent. Collectives in these regiunes were urged to plant in 1953 three times as many trees as they planted in 1950. Most of the young saplings were supplied by state farms which were expected to furnish twice as many trees in 1953 than

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Bucharest Regiune

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The Bucharest Regiume People's Council made preparations to plant an additional 300,000 fruit trees such as apple, pear, plum, apricot, peach, cherry, sour cherry, and almond trees in the regiume. Special workers collectives and teams were organized to aid and guide peasants in planting.

The executive committee of the Alexandria Raion People's Council distributed 16,000 fruit tree saplings to individual peasants. Technicians instructed peasants on how to plant the trees and care for them.(2)

The Afumati State Farm, Branesti Raion, received 5,000 fruit tree saplings from state nurseries at the beginning of December. The saplings were planted in the Stefanesti and beleiugatele sections of the farm. By 4 December, 3,000 caplings of apricot, cherry, sour cherry, and other fruit trees were planted.

The executive committee of the Calarasi Raion People's Council urged collectives and individual peasants to plant young fruit trees. For this purpose, the Calarasi Raion People's Council placed at the disposal of the raion 5,150 fruit trees. Planting started in November. Collectives in the raion planted 2,100 fruit trees, and MTS planted 4,500 trees on their farms. Calarasi town planted 500 trees, collectives in Cuza-Voda Commune planted 400 fruit trees, and individual peasants planted 2,600 trees. Modelu Commune planted 400 apricot trees.(4)

Individual peasants of Ogrezeni Commune, Crevedia Raion, started planting fruit trees [as of 6 December 1953]. They actually exceeded their planting schedule. Although 800 trees were scheduled to be planted, the commune planted 1,070. They planted such varieties as: apple, apricot, pear, plum, and cherry trees. Some individual peasants each planted as many as 30 apricot, 20 apple, and 15 plum trees.(5)

The Floresti Commune Youth Organization, Crevedia Raion, pledged to assist individual peasants to plant 2,000 fruit trees in the commune in the fall of 1953. The plan called for the planting of 100 cherry trees, 500 pear trees, 700 apple trees, and 700 plum trees.(6)

The agricultural section of the Grevedia Raion People's Council procured 15,500 saplings of apple, pear, plum, sour cherry, and other fruit trees from the Valea-Calugareasca, Buftea, and Perisani nurseries, for plunting in the raion. Individual peasants and collectives started preparing the ground for the trees.(7)

The executive committee of the Draganesti Raion People's Council ordered young fruit trees for distribution in the raion early in the fall of 1953 and planting started on time. Daneasa Commune, for example, planted 400 saplings. Individual peasants of Draganesti Commune planted 1,100 saplings, the collective of the Draganesti Commune Hospital planted 200 saplings, and the Plopii-Slavesti Commune planted 600 saplings. The 6 Martie Collective, Stoicanesti Commune, planted 230 saplings. Many collectivists in various communes planted fruit tree saplings in their own individual gardens.(3)

Giurgiu Raion planted 8,000 young fruit trees [by 22 November 1953].(2) Collectivists and individual peasants in the raion prepared the soil for plantplanted 4,500 apricot, apple, pear, and peach trees.(8) The Dimitric Cantemir Commune People's Council received 1,000 fruit trees from the agricultural section of the Giurgiu Raion Feople's Council, for planting at individual farms. The trees were immediately planted.(9)



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The Gruiu Commune People's Council, Oltenita Raion, received 900 fruit tree saplings from the raion people's council. The saplings were distributed to individual peasants, who planted them immediately.(10)

The Drum-Nou Collective, Coconi Village, Oltenita Raion, requested the raion people's council for an allotment of 1,000 young peach, apricot, and quince trees for the orchard of the collective. The 8 Martie Collective, Chirnogi Commune, made a similar request and received 150 young fruit trees. The Valea-Rosie Collective requested young vines for one hectare of land for planting in October. Many individual peasants followed the good example of the collectives.(11)

Individual peasants of Ghimpati Commune, Recari Raion, guided and instructed by agricultural agents and the executive committee of the commune people's council, prepared the ground and planted 400 fruit tree saplings by November 1953.(12)

Members of youth organizations, pioneers, and school children worked alongside their elders to help plant fruit trees in Rosiori Raion. Socialist competition was started in planting saplings of fruit trees which had been distributed to collectives and individual peasants in the raion. In only a few days 9,500 saplings were planted, including 4,300 planted by pioneers, youths, and children.(13)

Individual peasants of Creata-Lesile Commune, Snagov Raion, followed instructions given by the primary party organization of the commune people's council and planted 300 fruit tree saplings in 2 days. (14)

SOURCES

- 1. Romania Libera, 18 Nov 53
- 2. Viata Capitalei, 22 Nov 53
- 3. Ibid., 11 Dec 53
- 4. Ibid., 28 Nov 53
- 5. Ibid., 6 Dec 53
- 6. Ibid., 15 Oct 53
- 7. Ibid., 29 Nov 53
- 8. Ibid., 17 Nov 53
- 9. Toid., 1 Dec 53
- 10. Ibid., 18 Dec 53
- 11. Ibid., 4 Oct 53
- 12. Ibid., 27 Nov 53
- 13. Ibid., 16 Dec 53 *
- 14. Ibid., 10 Lec 3

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